

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday May 27, 2014
Central Library
814 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

PRESENT: Michele Bria, Ald. Milele Coggs, Sharon Cook, John Gurda,
Ald. Ashanti Hamilton, Ald. Nik Kovac, Chris Layden, Sup. Theo Lipscomb,
Joan Prince, Dir. Mark Sain, Paula Kiely

EXCUSED: Denise Callaway

STAFF: Ryan Daniels, Bruce Gay, Consuelo Hernandez, Joan Johnson, Judy Pinger,
Taj Schoening, Crystal Sura, Brooke VandeBerg, Kelly Wochinske

OTHERS Amy Hefter, Legislative Reference Bureau

PRESENT: Ellen Tangen, City Attorney's Office

President Hamilton called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:42 p.m. on May 27, 2014 with a quorum present. Trustees Coggs and Prince participated by conference phone and were excused at the convening of closed session. Trustee Hamilton left at 5:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT Ms. Sarah Kimball, a former MPL Foundation Board member, stated that she would like the library to keep "The Bookworm" painting. She sees it as a precious and generous gift and suggested that it be placed in a more prominent spot so it can be enjoyed by everyone. Ms. Kimball also shared a written comment by Mr. Russell Zimmerman Mr. E. J. Brumder, volunteer historian, echoed Ms. Kimball's comments, adding that "The Bookworm" is a famous piece of art and it should be retained at the library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Prior to approving the April 22, 2014 minutes, Vice-President Gurda moved that the motion made in item 7. Library Artifact, be changed to read: A motion was made by Trustee Callaway and seconded by Trustee Lipscomb that the Board direct MPL staff, Trustee Layden and the City Attorney to ~~negotiate~~ explore an agreement to loan the "Bookworm" to an interested party and to bring the proposed agreement to the Board for ~~approval~~ disposition. Trustee Lipscomb agreed. Trustee Layden seconded the motion. Motion passed. Trustee Gurda moved and Trustee Layden seconded a motion to approve the April 22, 2014 minutes. Motion passed.

ELECTION

1. **Election of MPL Board Officers.** President Hamilton stated that the Nominating Committee met on April 15, 2014 and presented the recommendations for MPL Board officers. Trustee Prince moved that Trustee Gurda be appointed as President, Trustee Bria as Vice-President and Trustee Lipscomb as Financial Secretary. The Library Director continues to serve as ex-officio secretary. Trustee Hamilton will serve on the Executive Committee as Past President. The motion was seconded by Trustee Layden and passed unanimously. President Gurda assumed the chair and expressed his gratitude to Trustee Hamilton on the calm, collegial leadership he provided to the trustees for the past four years.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

2. **New Central Library Manager.** Director Kiely introduced Public Services Area Manager Judy Pinger to the Board. Ms. Pinger said she has worked for MPL for twenty-four years and considers being the head of Central Library an honor and it is a privilege to work with an engaged community and wonderful employees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

3. **Services & Programs Committee.** Chair Cook briefly summarized the Library Services & Programs Committee meeting of May 5, 2014, attachment B, page 25 of the agenda. Director Kiely said the committee approved a recommendation to update the Code of Conduct, based on final approval by the City Attorney's Office. The City Attorney's office has since approved the policy. Trustee Cook moved and Trustee Hamilton seconded a motion to approve the revision to the MPL Code of Conduct for Milwaukee Public Libraries. Motion passed.
Trustee Cook said that regarding the marketing and fundraising mailing list, discussion included how the library could use the patron database to send marketing materials for programs and services. Additionally, the patron database could be used to solicit donations. A library policy will be drafted for consideration. Informational item.
The committee also discussed library cards and ways to reach more customers through a card campaign this fall. The Board will be updated as the campaign plans progress. Informational item.

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4. **Library Building & Development Committee.** Trustee Gurda provided a report from the May 7, 2014 committee meeting regarding the Milwaukee Civic Partnership Initiative. Referring to attachment C, page 32, he said the committee met with the Superlative Group, an assistant city attorney, two Foundation Board members and the Foundation Director to discuss the library's participation in the marketing program. The library differs from other City departments in that the Board has overall control of the assets and also has its own Foundation. The committee approved moving forward with phase 1 of the process which is the valuation of library assets which are considered its programs and services. The Board will decide whether to participate in phase 2, after they review and discuss the valuation report. Trustee Cook moved the committee's recommendation to the full Board. Trustee Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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5. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board.** Trustee Kovac, Resource Library Representative, reported that the MCFLS Director search is still in process. At the May 19, 2014 MCFLS meeting, a decision was made to request \$125,000 in funding from Milwaukee County for Sierra software enhancements. Informational item.

OLD BUSINESS

6. **East Library Development Agreement Amendment.** President Gurda reminded the Board that East Library construction was delayed by six weeks which led to an amendment to the purchase agreement. A second amendment is necessary but has not been finalized. The library has gained entry and is actively building out the space. The grand opening date is set for November 28, 2014. Informational item.

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7. **Library Artifact.** President Gurda stated his intention of convening in closed session for discussion on the negotiations relating to the potential sale or permanent loan of the painting “The Bookworm” by Carl Spitzweg currently owned by the Milwaukee Public pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Trustee Cook moved and Trustee Hamilton seconded the motion at 5:15 p.m. to convene in closed session. Roll called and unanimously passed. Director Kiely, Assistant City Attorney Ellen Tangen, and Marketing and Public Relations Officer Brooke VandeBerg remained during the closed session. The Board reconvened in open session at 6:18 p.m. on a motion by Trustee Cook and seconded by Trustee Bria. A motion was made by Trustee Layden and seconded by Trustee Bria to direct library staff and the city attorney’s office will formally enter into negotiations with the Grohmann Museum to provide greater access and resources to support the conservation of “The Bookworm”. The framework for the negotiations, as directed by the Board of Trustees, include an institutional loan agreement granting free access to Milwaukee Public Library cardholders; the Grohmann will maintain, protect, preserve and secure the painting; the Grohmann and MPL will work together on a display sharing the history of the painting, its provenance and its impact; and, finally a gift of \$1 million will be made to MPL. Motion passed with Trustee Kovac and President Gurda opposing.

NEW BUSINESS

8. **MPL Board Appointment.** Mayor Barrett announces the reappointment of John Gurda as a citizen member to the Library Board of Trustees for a 4-year term ending April 2018. Informational item.
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9. **Bay View Parking Lot.** Director Kiely said she was informed that a business near the Bay View Branch had concerns about the lack of parking in the neighborhood and anticipated a worsening of the situation due to the Dover School project. They inquired about parking in the Bay View Branch parking lot. The library does allow the public to park in East and Tippecanoe Library’s parking lots during closed hours but not overnight. The Board did not have any objection to allow the same parking regulations at the Bay View Branch parking lot. Informational item.
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10. **Summer Reading Programming.** Central Library Children’s Room Supervisor Kelly Wochinske stated that the Super Reader Program kicked off on May 19. Children who register receive a folder with a paper clock in which to track their minutes reading. After completing a reading level, they are awarded with a prize. As part of the outreach component, MPL’s early childhood consultants will be visiting eighty childcare sites this summer, working with over 200 children ages 0-5. Teachers receive three books for their classroom for their active participation. Eighty community learning centers and summer camp sites will be visited, serving over 5000 school-age children. The teen program, “Put Your Face in a Book” involves teens signing and tracking their reading online. Many generous donors support the summer reading program. Informational item.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11. **Personnel Actions.** The personnel activity for April was reviewed as listed on attachment E, page 35 of the agenda. Director Kiely recognized the promotion of Anthony Frausto to Martin Luther King Branch Manager. She expressed her gratitude to Daniel Kentowski for temporarily managing the Washington Park Branch and to Jane Hauptert who is managing Center Street Branch while the manager is on leave of absence. Director Kiely noted that Christine Arkenberg retired after 30 years of exceptional service to the library. Informational item.

12. **Financial Report.** The financial activity for April was presented as attachment F, page 37 of the agenda. Library administration reports financial activity:
U. S. Bancorp Commercial Paper #266078529 (rated A1/P1) dated 05/05/14 and maturing 06/04/14 at a rate of 0.06%.....\$460,000.

13. **Library Director's Reports.** Director Kiely referred to attachment G, page 39 of the agenda. She highlighted the "Around the Corner" broadcast with John McGivern and President Gurda held in the Loos Room on April 15.
The statistical reports were reviewed. Informational item.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of May 27, 2014 was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.
